



General Assembly

Amendment

January Session, 2009

LCO No. 7276

HB0655207276HR0

Offered by:

REP. CHAPIN, 67th Dist.

REP. MINER, 66th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6552

File No. 516

Cal. No. 336

"AN ACT BANNING THE POSSESSION OF POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS ANIMALS AND THE IMPORTATION, POSSESSION AND LIBERATION OF WILD ANIMALS."

1 After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
2 internal references accordingly:

3 "Sec. 501. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Attorney General
4 and any veterinarian licensed pursuant to section 20-197 of the general
5 statutes who operates a veterinary office shall be authorized to take
6 physical custody of a potentially dangerous animal listed in section 502
7 of this act. There shall be a designated place inside the Attorney
8 General's office or in such veterinary office where physical custody of
9 such animal may be taken.

10 Sec. 502. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Attorney General or a
11 veterinarian authorized pursuant to section 501 of this act shall take
12 physical custody of a potentially dangerous animal if the owner or
13 person in possession of the potentially dangerous animal voluntarily

14 surrenders physical custody of the animal to the Attorney General or
15 such authorized veterinarian.

16 Sec. 503. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) (a) The Attorney General
17 or an authorized veterinarian taking physical custody of a potentially
18 dangerous animal pursuant to section 502 of this act shall notify the
19 Department of Environmental Protection of such custody not later
20 than twenty-four hours after taking custody of such animal.

21 (b) The Commissioner of Environmental Protection shall assume the
22 care and control of the potentially dangerous animal immediately
23 upon receipt of notice under subsection (a) of this section and shall
24 take any action authorized by law to achieve safety and permanency
25 for the animal or to properly dispose of the animal.

26 (c) Any potentially dangerous animal in the care and control of the
27 commissioner under the provisions of this section shall be considered
28 to be in the custody of the Department of Environmental Protection.

29 Sec. 504. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) Information concerning an
30 owner or person in possession of a potentially dangerous animal left
31 with the Attorney General or an authorized veterinarian shall be
32 confidential and the Attorney General or such veterinarian shall
33 provide to the Commissioner of Environmental Protection all medical
34 history information provided by the owner or person in possession of
35 such animal.

36 Sec. 505. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) The Commissioner of
37 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Attorney General,
38 shall prepare a public information program regarding the provisions
39 established under sections 501 to 506, inclusive, of this act. Such
40 program shall include distribution to owners or persons in illegal
41 possession of such potentially dangerous animals a pamphlet that
42 contains the following information: (1) An explanation of the process
43 provisions established under sections 501 to 506, inclusive, of this act,
44 (2) the legal ramifications and protections for the owners or persons in
45 possession of such animals, (3) what may happen to the potentially

46 dangerous animal, (4) how to contact the Department of
47 Environmental Protection with questions regarding the relinquishment
48 process, and (5) any other information deemed relevant by the
49 Commissioner of Environmental Protection and the Attorney General.

50 Sec. 506. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2009*) An owner or person in
51 possession of a potentially dangerous animal who surrenders such
52 animal to the Attorney General or an authorized veterinarian pursuant
53 to section 502 of this act shall not be charged with animal cruelty,
54 neglect or abandonment."